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MEDIA ADVISORY

Seventh annual Coastal Bend Winter Beach Clean up Feb. 12

Patterson calls for volunteers in the Coastal Bend

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AUSTIN — The Seventh Annual Coastal Bend Winter Beach Cleanup will be held Saturday, February 12 announced Jerry Patterson, Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office. The cleanups will take place at five locations along the Coastal Bend shoreline.

"The volunteers who help out with the Adopt-A-Beach Winter Cleanup are a dedicated lot," Patterson said. "We can't promise warm weather but we can promise a warm feeling of satisfaction knowing that you've helped keep the Texas coast beautiful."

The Winter Beach Cleanup is one of three all-volunteer seasonal cleanups coordinated through the Adopt-A-Beach Program of the Texas General Land Office. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. The beach cleanups will be from 9 a.m. to noon.

Each year, Texas' beaches receive large amounts of marine debris due to a convergence of currents in the Gulf of MexicoSince 1986, more than 406,000 Adopt-A-Beach volunteers have picked up more than 7,800 tons of this debris, some of it originating as far away as Greece. Volunteers record data on the trash to learn more about the causes of marine debris and to help mitigate pollution along Texas' 367 miles of coastline.

The Texas General Land Office's Adopt-A-Beach Program is funded primarily by private contributions. To help out, or for more information, call the General Land Office at 1-877-TXCOAST or visit our Web site at http://www.texasadoptabeach.org.

Who: Winter beach cleanup volunteers

What: GLO Adopt-A-Beach Coastal Bend Winter Beach Cleanup

When: Saturday, February 12, 2011 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. - registration

9 a.m. to noon - cleanup

Where: Bayside/Copano Bay - Egery Island Road Marina, one-half mile south of Bayside at the Copano Bay Bridge off FM 136, contact Richard Gonzales 361-779-7351, richard.gonazales@texasadoptabeach.org

Aransas Pass - Redfish Bay, Lighthouse Lakes Park, 4 miles east of Aransas Pass on Highway 361, contact Richard Gonzales 361-779-7351, richard.gonazales@texasadoptabeach.org

Port Aransas - Avenue G at the beach, contact Deno Fabrie 361-749-0256, deno.fabrie@texasadoptabeach.org

Corpus Christi - Texas State Aquarium, 2710 N. Shoreline Blvd., contact Kristin Ralls 361-881-1321, kristin.ralls@texasadoptabeach.org

Padre Island National Seashore - Malaquite Visitors Center, 20420 Park Rd. 22, contact Buzz Botts 361-949-8068, <u>buzz.botts@texasadoptabeach.org</u>